Establishment of High Court Bench in Kerala

2046. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:
PROF. P.J. KURIAN:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal of the Government of Kerala seeking permission of the Central Government to set up High Court Bench in Kerala is pending for sanction and whether Government require any specific and complete proposal from the State Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Jaswant Singh Commission laid down any stipulations for establishment of High Court Bench;

(d) if so, whether the Government's proposal satisfies the principles and criteria laid down by the Jaswant Singh Commission; and

(e) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) to (e) In its report, the Jaswant Singh Commission suggested the broad principles and criteria to be followed while deciding the question of expediency and desirability of establishment of a Bench of a High Court away from the principal seat and the factors to be kept in view in selecting the venue of the said Bench. The report of the Commission was placed in the Parliament Library on 15.10.86 and was laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha on 20.4.87 and 21.4.87 respectively, which may be referred to.

The question of opening a High Court Bench is considered by the Central Government in the light of these principles and criteria as and when a specific and complete proposal is received from the State Governments in consultation with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. However, no such complete proposal in this regard from the Kerala Government has been received.

Pending Public Interest Litigations

†2047. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Public Interest Litigations are pending in courts;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.